

**PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**

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## *Providing Online Physical Therapy Advice*

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A physical therapist is not authorized to provide physical therapy treatment without having a diagnosis from a diagnostician per Section 2620 of the Business and Professions (B&P) Code. Therefore, a physical therapist cannot provide physical therapy treatment or give treatment advice directly to consumers without having a diagnosis and performing an evaluation of the patient.

A physical therapist licensed in California can provide the following advice via Internet or via telephone in the State of California.

- A physical therapist can instruct a person how to obtain physical therapy care in the State of California.
- A physical therapist can cite possible range of treatment available.
- A physical therapist can offer wellness advice.
- A physical therapist can offer resources on where to research information on physical therapy.
- A physical therapist can provide general information regarding medical conditions that are not meant to be specific to that individual.

Prior to a physical therapist rendering physical therapy advice the Board recommends you verbally notify the inquirer or provide a written "disclaimer statement" that indicates the information that is being provided is for "Advice Only" for individuals in California. The Board is unable to speak on behalf of the other state physical therapy regulatory boards.

Note: This document is not a declaratory opinion of the Physical Therapy Board of California (PTBC).